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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12
NEA-10 /130 W
----------034559 012236Z /65
P 011605Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6181

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECON, EGEN, UNCTAD, MZ
SUBJECT: MILTILATERAL AFFAIRS: COMMODITIES-UNCTAD COMMON FUND MEETING NOVEMBER 7-DECEMBER 2

REF: STATE 191312

1. FOLLOWING ARE EMBASSY'S RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL.

2. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WORKING ON UNCTAD ISSUES: THE MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT IS THINLY STAFFED AND DOES NOT HAVE ONE SPECIFIC AGENCY OR OFFICE HANDLING UNCTAD ISSUES. QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS REGARDING UNCTAD ARE HANDLED BY VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS AND DEPARTMENTS IN THE MINISTRIES OF DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC PLANNING, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, AND FINANCE. OCCASIONALLY, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS GETS INVOLVED IN UNCTAD ISSUES.

3. INDIVIDUALS WORKING ON UNCTAD ISSUES: DECISIONS ON ECONOMIC QUESTIONS ARE MADE AT HIGHEST LEVEL OF THE GOVERNMENT, USUALLY BY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT MARCELINO DOS
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SANTOS, MINISTER OF INDUCSTY AND COMMERCE MARIO MACHUNGO, AND MINISTER OF FINANCE SALAMOA MUNGANBE. FOR TECHNICAL EXPERTISE, THIS GROUPS DRAWS ON OSSMAN MAJID, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF FINANCE (MINISTRY OF FINANCE), ALBERTO CASSIMO, GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF MOZAMBIQUE AND MANUAL DOS SANTOS, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL COMMERCE (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE). ALL ARE TRAINED ECONOMISTS AND

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STRONG SUPPORTERS OF GOVERNMENT.

4. FOREIGN ADVISORS ON UNCTAD ISSUES: ON DIFICULT ECONOMIC QUESTIONS, THE MOZAMBICAN GOVERNMENT ALSO SEEKS ADVICE AND GUIDANCE OF OTHER "PROGRESSIVE" THIRD WORLD STATES, PARTICULARLY TANZANIA. THE MOZAMBICANS AND TANZANIANS HAVE A COMMON OUTLOOK ON MANY ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, AND IN INTERNATIONAL FORA WHERE THEY HAVE VERY LITTLE EXPERIENCE, THE MOZAMBICANS GENERALLY FOLLOW THE LEAD OF THE TANZANIANS. HAVING ALIGNED ITSLEF WITH THE MORE RADICAL ELEMENTS IN THE THIRD WORLD CAMP, MOZAMBICANS ARE ALSO SWAYED AND INFLUENCED BY THE ARGUMENTS PUT FORWARD BY SOMALIA, GUINEA, CUBA AND ALGERIA.

5. LIKELY MOZAMBICAN PARTICIPANTS IN UNCTAD CONFERENCES: MOZAMBIQUE DOES NOT HAVE A DIPLOMACTIC MISSION IN GENEVA AND IN MOST CASES WILL BE REPRESENTED AT UNCTAD MEETINGS BY OFFICALS FROM MAPUTO. AT THE MAY 1977 UNCTAD MEETING IN NAIROBI, MOZAMBIQUE WAS REPRESENTED BY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE MARIO MACHNUNGO AND BY MANUEL DOS SANTOS AND OSSMAN MAJID. BARRING ANY CHANGES IN THEIR POSITIONS, ONE OR TWO OF THESE INDIVIDUALS WILL PROBABLY BE INCLUDED IN MOST MOZAMBIQUE DELEGATIONS TO UNCTAD CONFERENCES.

6. PROSPECTS OF HAVING U.S. EXPERT TALK WITH MOZAMBICANS: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

WHILE EMBASSY AND MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT WOULD BENEFIT FROM VISIT OF EXPERTS TO MAPUTO, WE DO NOT BELIEVE MOZAMBIQUE'S KEY OFFICIALS WOOULD BE WILLING TO SPEND ENOUGH TIME WITH U.S. EXPERT TO MAKE VISIT TO MAPUTO WORTHWHILE.

7. FOLLOWING ARE THUMBNAIL BIO SKETCHES ON THE INDIVIDUALS WHO MAKE MOZAMBIQUE POLICY ON ECONOMIC ISSUES.
---MARCELINO DOS SANTOS IS NUMBER TWO IN THE GOVERNMENT AND A PRO-SOVIET IDEOLOGUE. HE VIEWS ALL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN EAST-WEST POLITICAL TERMS.
--MARIO MACHUNGO STUDIED ECONOMICS IN LISBON AND HAS BEEN MINISTER OF INDUSTRY SINCE INDEPENDENCE. HIS VIEWS ON ECONOMICS ARE LARGELY UNKNOWN TO US.
--MANUEL DOS SANTOS (NO RELATION TO MARCELINO) HAS BEEN NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF INTERNAL COMMERCE FOR NEARLY SIXTEEN MONTHS. HE RECEIVED AN ECONOMICS DEGREE FROM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY. DESPITE HIS AMERICAN EDUCATION, DOS SANTOS IS ANTI-AMERICAN AND PRO-MARXIST IN HIS ORIENTATION.
--OSSMAN MAJID IS PROBABLY GOVERNMENT'S MOST CAPABLE ECONOMIST. HE IS OF GOAN ANCESTRY AND STUDIED ECONOMICS

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IN LISBON. HE HAS ACCOMPANIED SENIOR MOZAMBICAN OFFICALS TO UN ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. HE IS A STRONG SUPPOERT OF GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES BUT IS NOT HOSTILE TO WEST.
--ALBERTO CASSIMO HAS PROVEN TO BE A FISCAL CONSERVATIVE SINCE TAKING OVER AT THE BANK OF MOZAMBIQUE. HE HAS SOUGHT TO KEEP THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN RESERVES HIGH AND ITS EXTERNAL BORROWINGS LOW. HE IS FRIENDLY TO WESTERNERS.
--SALOMAO MANGUAMBE, TAUGHT AT UNIVERSITY OF LOURENCO MARQUES PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE AND HAS DEGREE IN FINANCE FROM A PORTUGUESE UNIVERSITY.
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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